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"August 25th. The nucleus evidently not in the centre of the coma. The jet is much curved. A tangent to the jet near the nucleus would have a position-angle of 235° or 240°.

"August 27th. A fine evening. With the naked eye the tail can be traced for about 20°. In the telescope the tail appears to be double. The inner edge of the longer and brighter branch is sharply defined; one measure gave its initial position-angle $=75°$. The southern branch short and ill-defined. At $8^h\ 45^m$ G.M.T. five measures gave the position-angle of jet $=241°\cdot5$. Later in the evening, $10^h\ 40^m$, the position-angle deduced from five measures was $240°\cdot8$; approximate length of jet, $46''\pm$.

"August 29th. Apparently an extraordinary change in the form of the jet. The nucleus very bright, sharply defined, and of an orange tint. The position-angle deduced from five measures at $8^h\ 30^m$ was $279°\cdot0$. Clouds now came up, and further observation was impossible.

"August 30th. The jet appears to have recovered its usual form. The nucleus and jet not well defined; the position-angle of the latter at $9^h\ 30^m$ estimated at 225°. Later in the evening took measures: the mean of five gave the angle at $10^h\ 7^m = 225°\cdot6$. This was the last occasion on which I saw the Comet."

The marked changes in the position-angle of the jet are sufficiently curious, and I much regret that circumstances did not allow me to obtain a more complete series of measures. I can only hope that other observers have been more fortunate.

Woodcroft Observatory, Cuckfield, Nov. 11, 1862.

Observations of Comet II., 1862. By F. Abbott, Esq.

I herewith send you the approximate positions of a fine Comet, which first made its appearance here at the early part of the month. From the 1st to the 6th the sky was so unusually cloudy as to entirely shut out the Moon's place, and also from the 6th to the 11th, from the latter date it was observed every evening with one exception, the results were chiefly obtained with the first trial of a Dallmeyer's portable Equatoreal, just imported—no correction having been made for instrumental error or refraction — the positions, however, were generally taken near the zenith.

The small sketch enclosed, taken on the 11th, will convey some idea as to the Comet's general appearance. On the 6th, it was distinctly seen in a clear sky with a Moon thirteen days old. On the 11th some measures were made on its curved tail,

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about 5° in length, 40′ in diameter, with a planetary nucleus of 20″; on this evening *δ Scorpii* was seen doubly through the tail clear and well defined. On the evening of the 12th the condensed head of the Comet covered the small nebula marked 80 *Messier*, which nebula could not be seen at this time by any means I could adopt. On the 21st the Comet had apparently diminished so much as to be just visible to the naked eye when pointed out, and on the 22d it became telescopic.

		R.A.	Decl.
	h m	h m	° ′
1862, Sept. 6	6 30 P.M.	15 59	4 0 S.
11	8 30 ,,	16 10	19 40
12	7 20 ,,	16 11	22 30
14	10 10 ,,	16 13	26 25
15	7 10 ,,	16 14	27 30
16	10 30 ,,	16 15	29 20
17	7 35 ,,	16 16	31 10
18	7 15 ,,	16 17	32 0
19	7 35 ,,	16 18	33 30
20	7 45 ,,	16 19	34 30
21	7 30 ,,	16 20	35 50 S.

Private Observatory, Hobart Town, Sept. 23, 1862.

On the Cluster κ Crucis, R.A. $12^h\ 43^m\ 36^s$, *N.P.D.* 149° 25′ 31″ (3435, *H.*) *Lac.* 1110 (*Neb.*). By F. Abbott, Esq.

This delightful cluster, "which is estimated by Sir J. Herschel to be composed of from 50 to 100 stars," most of which partake of well-marked and varied colours, forms an object that is scarcely perceptible to the naked eye, but when under proper optical influence it is one of the most brilliant and interesting objects in the Southern sky.

This cluster is not only an object of interest from the extreme beauty of colour and arrangement, but with respect also to certain changes that are apparently taking place in the number, position, and colour of its component stars.

Some hesitation might be felt in following the author of the *Cape Observations*, with the means he employed, were it not for the encouraging invitation that is given for other observers to note any remarkable change that may have taken place since those results were published. Having, therefore, no knowledge of any other observation being made, or popular

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